

## Message Text

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42

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FBOE-00 A-01 ABF-01 /009 W

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R 051354Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO USIA WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2376

UNCLAS KINSHASA 3685

USIAC

USIA FOR DAWSON FROM CONLEY

STATE AF/C FOR AMBASSADOR HINTON

1. A MODERATELY HEAVY RAIN FLOODED USIS PREMISES OVER THE WEEKEND. RESULT: THE PHONES AND ELECTRICITY WENT OUT. DRAINS BACKED UP. RATS GAMBOLED IN THE STOCKROOM. COCKROACHES NEARLY WALKED OFF WITH MY DESK.

2. AS A RELATIVELY RECENT VISITOR HERE, YOU DOUBTLESS AGREE WITH THE INSPECTORS' OBSERVATION THAT THE USIS QUARTERS ARE SHABBY BEYOND BELIEF.

3. ISSUE: DO WE TAKE THE COSMETIC APPROACH AND THROW GOOD MONEY AFTER BAD IN AN ATTEMPT TO PRETTIFY AN UGLY SET OF OFFICES IN A FAIR BUT FAR FROM IDEAL LOCATION? OR DO WE LOOK FOR NEW SPACE?

4. FACTORS TO CONSIDER: CURRENT RENT: \$1,600 PER MONTH. LANDLORD'S TERMS FOR TWO-YEAR RENEWAL AS OF JAN. 1, 1976: \$5,000 A MONTH. BEST GUESS HERE IS THAT HE WILL ACCEPT \$4,000 UNDERSTAND THE AGENCY IS GAGGING ON THAT, AND NO WONDER.

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5. NO WORK ON THE ALL-PURPOSE, MULTI-MEDIA ROOM HAS BEEN DONE SINCE APRIL 1. A WALL HAS BEEN THROWN UP TO CREATE A PROJECTIONIST'S BOOTH AND THE ROOM HAS BEEN PAINTED. THAT'S ALL. TRACK LIGHTING HASN'T ARRIVED. NO CARPETS HAVE BEEN LAID. IN SHORT, WE HAVE A SHELL OF A ROOM THAT WILL REQUIRE SOME \$20,000 OR MORE TO COMPLETE. IT WOULD BE CRIMINAL, IN MY JUDGMENT, TO INVEST THAT KIND OF MONEY IN SUCH A ROOM IN OUR PRESENT LOCATION.

6. RECOMMENDATION: STYLE AND QUALITY ARE NOT INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE LOW PROFILE, TARGETED APPROACH OF THE USIS PROGRAM HERE. I RECOMMEND THAT WE BE AUTHORIZED TO BEGIN AT ONCE TO LOOK FOR MORE ATTRACTIVE SPACE IN A BETTER LOCATION AT A MONTHLY RENT OF \$4,000 OR LESS.

7. CHARGE NEWLIN CONCURS.  
CONLEY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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